

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-12 /096 W

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P R 180300Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4394

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU PRIORITY

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

UNCLAS TOKYO 765

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 765 VICE 764)

CINCPAC FOR POLAD AND USDEL SSC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, JA, US

SUBJECT: JAPANESE PRESS COVERAGE AT SSC

1. PRESS COVERAGE OF FIRST DAY OF SSC MEETINGS CONSISTED ENTIRELY OF USE OF ALL OR PART OF KYODO REPORT REPRINTED IN FULL BELOW. VERNACULAR PAPERS CARRIED ITEM ON INSIDE PAGES BUT IT WAS FRONT-PAGED BY ENGLISH LANGUAGE JAPAN TIMES.

2. TEXT OF KYODO STORY: BEGIN QUOTE; JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES DISCUSSED THE PLANNED U.S. PULLOUT FROM SOUTH KOREA MONDAY AT THE OPENING OF A TWO-DAY WORKING-LEVEL CONSULTATION ON SECURITY.

ALTHOUGH DETAILS OF THE DISCUSSION WERE NOT MADE PUBLIC, THE AMERICAN SIDE WAS THOUGHT TO HAVE BRIEFED THE JAPANESE ON ITS DECISION NOT TO CURTAIL THE U.S. FORCES IN JAPAN AND OTHER WESTERN PACIFIC AREA EXCEPT UNCLASSIFIED

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SOUTH KOREA.

IN ANUSWER TO JAPANESE QUESTIONS, THE U.S. DENIED LAST YEAR'S REPORTS BY THE U.S. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE AND THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION ON POSSIBLE FUTURE CURTAILMENT IN THE U.S. MARINE CORPS IN OKINAWA AND THE WESTERN PACIFIC.

THE U.S. SIDE WAS ALSO BELIEVED TO HAVE SAID THAT
6,000 U.S. GROUND COMBAT TROOPS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM
SOUTH KOREA IN 1978 BUT THAT THE U.S. HAS NO MILITARY
PULLOUT PLAN FROM THE COUNTRY IN 1979 AND AFTER.

THE TWO COUNTRIES ALSO EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE PRESENT
MILITARY BALANCE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION IN
ASIA.

AT THE LAST SESSION TUESDAY OF THE 10TH REGULAR
MEETING, THE TWO SIDES ARE EXPECTED TO DISCUSS THE US
FORCES IN JAPAN AND OTHER BILATERAL MILITARY AFFAIRS.

KO MARUYAMA, VICE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEFENSE
AGENCY, AND MASUO TAKASHIMA, DEPUTY VICE MINISTER FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ARE REPRESENTING JAPAN AT THE MEETING.
THE U.S. IS REPRESENTED BY MILITARY EXPERTS INCLUDING
DAVID E. MCGIFFERT, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS. END QUOTE.
SHERMAN

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NNN

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